



Weeping Radish Manteo Closes After 22 Years!!

Tony Gutierrez, 2007 Band Director

Manteo NC - The Weeping Radish Restaurant in Manteo NC closed its doors for the last time at midnight Saturday September 9th after 22 years of serving the Manteo area authentic German food and beer. The end came with in the form of one final Oktoberfest. The eatery and surrounding property was sold to developers to make way for condos. The Radish is relocating to Jarvisburg NC about 35 miles from downtown Manteo. The Radish gift shops were closed and emptied of merchandise except for a small store inside the restaurant. Both the restaurant and bar continued to serve meals and beers to patrons attending the final Oktoberfest. The LGB&D has played at the Radish Oktoberfest since 1987. The LGB&D played its best to slightly smaller than usual crowds both Friday and Saturday. Weather was a bit humid but comfortable with nice breeze blowing both days thanks to tropical storm Gabrielle churning in the Atlantic.

Employees were cheerful although a bit melancholy as they end of an era was coming to a close. This year's trip to Germany was switched to a trip to Las Vegas NV marking this historic event as a gamble for both Uli and the trip winner. The band ended its final set at 11:30 PM with a final Ein Prosit ending with auf Wiedersehen. LGB&D members reminisced about the good times at the "Duke of Dare" motor lodge including our of many years of late-night pizzas and beers.

Only a few employees will follow Uli to their new brewery in Jarvisburg NC. Initial reports describe the new brewery location as a large warehouse with plenty of parking but not much else. Uli will continue the Weeping Radish Oktoberfest tradition at his new location in Jarvisburg NC on the very same weekend next year. "Over the last 22 years, we've never been rained-out. We've had hurricanes before and after this weekend. Why change it now" remarked Uli. Email me your favorite Weeping Radish story. You can see more photos of the final Weeping Radish Oktoberfest in Manteo NC at <http://community.webshots.com/user/littlegermanband>

Manteo Highlight

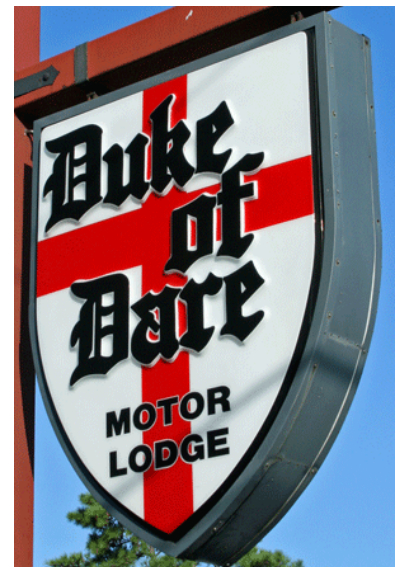
Doug Walker, 2006 Music Director

21 years ago, none of us had ever heard of the Weeping Radish in Manteo. And yet, we were booked for an Oktoberfest there. Ken Macior, then the Business Manager, said it was a Bavarian brewery in Manteo - but Ken had a tendency to get very excited about new ideas, and we were not quite sure what it was really going to be like. Remember, this was 1987, and the word "Microbrewery" was not really in use yet.

So how did the first year go? We had a great time, we drank a lot of great beer. We stayed at the Duke of Dare, just like we did this year. We played more hours - five hours each night and three in the afternoon - with fewer people than 2007. And Uli's chef met us back at the Radish and cooked us breakfast in the mornings.

The fest was inside the restaurant, and especially Saturday night, it was packed to the rafters. The partying got pretty wild. At one point Ken Macior and Pete Peterson were standing on chairs playing clarinet, and an extremely intoxicated young lady walked up behind Ken and actually bit him on his rear end through his lederhosen! When she did it, her hat fell off, and she went lurching after it while Ken stared, trying to figure out what had just happened! We also had a memorable march-around that went up the stairs to the loft of the main restaurant. It turns out that those stairs are just steep enough that you end up nose-to-butt with the person in front of you... and if that person has been drinking unfiltered Weissbier all night, that's not where you want to be! (Continued)

Weeping Radish Closes!



Manteo Highlight (Continued)

Doug Walker, 2006 Music Director

As time went by, Manteo became a favorite for many of us. We ended up losing the gig for a few years to a band that split off from ours. One year, though, Genny and I just happened to go to Manteo about three weeks prior to their fest, and walked in to the restaurant to eat. What should be playing on the sound system but Edelweiss, from our album "Eins... Zwei... Drei... PROST!", featuring the two of us on vocals. We laughed and told the waitress that the song playing was the two of us, and she got all excited and went to get Ginger, the manager. Turns out Ginger had been trying to get in touch with the other band and hadn't been able to, and she was frantic about the upcoming Oktoberfest. I told her I'd see what I could do about getting her a band. We had a booking already for Saturday, but we quickly arranged a double booking and got a band together - and that got us the gig back for the next 10 years or so.

We've had our ups and downs with the Weeping Radish, but it still stands as one of my personal favorites on our schedule. Early enough to avoid burnout, long enough to be worth the trip, and you can't beat the beer. Pros't!

Oktoberfest Montana

Marvin Sorroos, LGB&D Dancer

Now that I am partially retired and not teaching during the fall semesters, Carol and I are, for the first time, staying through September in our Montana home before returning to Raleigh in time for the October LGBD gigs. After an unusually hot summer and smoke from forest fires, the fall is magnificent in western Montana. We decided to take advantage of a beautiful Sunday afternoon to check out the Missoula Oktoberfest, which was held under a large tent in a riverfront park. To our surprise, the event was remarkably like some of our LGBD gigs. A band from Kalispell called the Bavarian Echos provided the music with a repertoire similar to ours. There was the usual beer and German food and a large enthusiastic crowd with a fair number getting up to dance and join a march. A couple dressed in tracht did crowd rousing, but not dance shows. They told us that at one time they had a large enough dance group to do shows; one dance they mentioned performing was the wood choppers dance. When the band played the Kufstein (extremely slowly), Carol and I performed the LGBD dance moves. A trio of alphorn players performed during a break. It was fun! I'll look forward to seeing you all in a few weeks!



Karl Einsle Update

Some of our long time members may recall all the years Karl and Ann Einsle were involved in the LGB&D. Karl organized some awesome trips, was our "Festmeister" at our Oktoberfests at the Civic Center, organized parties, taught German lessons, etc. Some of our customers still ask about them.

Karl has lost most of his eyesight and is pretty much confined to home, he uses a walker to get around. His health is not good, but his sense of humor and his memory are! Whenever we visit them, Karl and Ann ask about each of you by name. They are both still interested in what's going on with the LGB&D and love to hear the latest news.

If anyone is interested in contacting the Einsles, here is their information:

Karl and Ann Einsle
601 Knightsborough Way
Apex, NC 27502
919-363-7634

~Dick & Joyce



Karl Einsle "Festmeister" 1982
Oktoberfest Raleigh Civic Center
